

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

National Application No  
PCT/EP 03/03280

**A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER**  
IPC 7 G06F17/30

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

**B. FIELDS SEARCHED**

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)  
IPC 7 G06F

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, INSPEC, WPI Data, PAJ

**C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT**

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	<p>KOSKY A S ET AL: "Exploring heterogeneous biological databases: tools and applications"</p> <p>ADVANCES IN DATABASE TECHNOLOGY - EDBT'98. 6TH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON EXTENDING DATABASE TECHNOLOGY PROCEEDINGS, ADVANCES IN DATABASE TECHNOLOGY - EDBT'98 6TH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON EXTENDING DATABASE TECHNOLOGY PROCEEDINGS, VALENCIA, SPAIN, 'Online! pages 499-513, XP002235570</p> <p>1998, Berlin, Germany, Springer-Verlag, Germany</p> <p>ISBN: 3-540-64264-1</p> <p>Retrieved from the Internet: &lt;URL:http://link.springer.de/link/service/series/0558/papers/1377/13770499.pdf&gt; 'retrieved on 2003-03-19! abstract</p> <p style="text-align: center;">-/--</p>	1-47

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

\* Special categories of cited documents:

- \*A\* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- \*E\* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
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- \*Y\* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.
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Date of the actual completion of the international search

26 May 2003

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04/06/2003

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## C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
	page 503, line 38 -page 507, line 15 page 508, line 24 -page 509, line 12 -----	
X	US 5 241 648 A (HEDGES RICHARD W ET AL) 31 August 1993 (1993-08-31) abstract column 2, line 3 -column 3, line 35 column 4, line 28 -column 5, line 37 -----	1-47
X	WO 01 01294 A (TOPALOGLOU THODOROS ;GENE LOGIC INC (US)) 4 January 2001 (2001-01-04) page 16, line 26 -page 17, line 6 -----	1-47
A	US 5 701 460 A (KAPLAN DAVID L ET AL) 23 December 1997 (1997-12-23) abstract column 1, line 46 -column 4, line 7 column 15, line 45-62 claims 1-23 -----	1-47

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Patent document cited in search report	Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
US 5241648	A	31-08-1993	EP 0442684 A2 21-08-1991 JP 3104708 B2 30-10-2000 JP 4213765 A 04-08-1992
WO 0101294	A	04-01-2001	AU 5417900 A 31-01-2001 CA 2377823 A1 04-01-2001 EP 1228447 A2 07-08-2002 WO 0101294 A2 04-01-2001
US 5701460	A	23-12-1997	NONE